

**July 12, 2006**

# **Montana Medicaid Notice**

## **EPSDT Private Duty Nursing Providers**

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### **EPSDT Private Duty Nursing Services Changes**

**Effective July 1, 2006**

The Department has made changes to the Administrative Rule that governs the provision of EPSDT private duty nursing services. These changes are outlined below, or you can visit the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.mt.gov/ARM/Register](http://www.sos.mt.gov/ARM/Register) for the version of the rule as it has been amended.

Private duty nursing services provided to a Medicaid client by a person legally responsible for that client must be prior authorized by the department or its designee. Legally responsible persons include the parents (including natural, adoptive, and foster) of minor children, legally assigned caretaker relatives of minor children, and spouses. The legally responsible person must be a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse currently licensed in Montana and be employed by an agency enrolled with Montana Medicaid to provide private duty nursing services. The department will authorize up to 40 hours in a seven-day period of EPSDT private duty nursing services that can be provided by a legally responsible person. This authorization will not limit the total amount of hours approved for skilled nursing services for a client.

Private duty nursing services are limited to skilled nursing services provided directly to a child and patient specific training provided to a registered nurse or licensed practicing nurse. Private duty nursing services do not include travel time to and from the recipient's place of service, services provided to allow the client's family or caregiver to work or go to school, or services provided to allow respite for caregivers or the client's family.

Authorization for private duty nursing services provided through school districts may be authorized for the duration of the regular school year. Services provided during the summer months are additional services that require separate prior authorization.

The department is in the process of developing a provider manual specific to private duty nursing. Watch the website for this update. New versions of the PDN Request for Authorization forms are available on the website at [www.mtmedicaid.org](http://www.mtmedicaid.org).

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact Sara Loewen at (406) 444-4189.

## **Contact Information**

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations:

**Provider Relations toll-free in- and out-of-state: 1-800-624-3958**

**Helena: (406) 442-1837**

Visit the Provider Information website:

**<http://www.mtmedicaid.org>**